

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 IO-13 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00

EB-07 FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 COME-00 BIB-01

NASA-01 OES-06 ERDA-05 DODE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 ERDE-00 EAE-00 /098 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2808

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 10576

USUN FOR HABIB AND HUMMEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: INTELSAT, OCON, PFORGN, CH, TW, PK

SUBJECT: INTELSAT CHINA

REF: (A) NAIROBI 10531, (B) STATE 241527

1. IN A SURPRISE MOVE, WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN A REACTION
TO OUR CONVERSATION WITH THE PAKISTANI DELEGATION LATE
SEPTEMBER 28, THE SPONSORS OF THE HARDLINE RESOLUTION
QUOTED IN PARA 1 OF REF A ARRANGED BEFORE THE OPENING
OF BUSINESS SEPTEMBER 29 TO HAVE IT WITHDRAWN FROM
DELEGATION BOXES AND ARE NOW FLOATING THE FOLLOWING
SUBSTANTIAL REVISION:

2. BEGIN QUOTE. RECALLING U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTION NO. 2758 (XXVI) WHICH RESTORED THE LAWFUL
RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN THE UNITED
NATIONS, WHICH RECOGNIZED THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ITS
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GOVERNMENT AS THE ONLY LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF

CHINA IN THE UNITED NATIONS, AND WHICH EXPELLED THE REPRESENTATIVES OF CHAING KAI-SHEK FROM THE PLACE THEY UNLAWFULLY OCCUPIED AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

FURTHER RECALLING THAT THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ABOVE-MENTIONED GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION, HAS RESTORED ALL RIGHTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA AS THE SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE IN THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION.

DECIDES TO RECOGNIZE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA AS THE SOLE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA WHICH HAS THE AUTHORITY TO REPRESENT CHINA IN INTELSAT.

FURTHER DECIDES TO WELCOME THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO JOIN THE INTELSAT.
END QUOTE.

3. CONSISTENT WITH REF B, IF A RESOLUTION SUBSTANTIALLY ALONG THESE LINES COMES BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY, UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED THE DELEGATION WILL ABSTAIN IN A VOTE, WITH EXPLANATION, OR ACQUIESCE IN A CONSENSUS.

4. SOUNDINGS WE HAVE MADE AMONG DELEGATIONS WHICH HAD HAD DIFFICULTY WITH THE EARLIER HARDLINE RESOLUTION INDICATE THAT MOST IF NOT ALL OF THEM WOULD EXPECT TO SUPPORT THE REVISED VERSION. THIS BEING THE CASE, THE DELEGATION SEES GREAT ADVANTAGE IN HAVING THE DECISION TAKEN BY CONSENSUS, AS A VOTE WOULD LIKELY PLACE THE U.S. IN ISOLATION OR NEAR ISOLATION. IN OUR VIEW THIS MIGHT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE TAIWAN ACCESS ISSUE.

5. WE HAVE ASCERTAINED PRIVATELY FROM THE INTELSAT LEGAL ADVISOR THAT IF ANY SUCH A RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY, AND ONCE THE PRC HAS ACCEDED TO MEMBERSHIP, THE SECRETARY GENERAL WILL FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN PRESENT OPERATING ARRANGEMENTS WITH TAIWAN OR TO PROCESS ANY REQUEST FOR ACCESS WITHOUT OBTAINING AT LEAST TACIT ASSURANCES FROM PEKING. THE ALGERIAN REPRESENTATIVE CONVEYED TO THE SECRETARY
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GENERAL TODAY PRC ASSURANCES THAT THE PRC DOES NOT (A) SEEK RECOVERY OF THE TAIWAN INVESTMENT OR (B) WISH TO IMPEDE TAIWAN ACCESS. WHILE ILLUMINATING, THE SECRETARY GENERAL DOES NOT FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT THIS YET CLEARS UP THE PRC ATTITUDE ON WHETHER IT WOULD EXPECT TO BE INVOLVED IN ANY TAIWAN REQUESTS.

6. THE CRITICAL FEATURE IN ANY PROSPECTIVE ACCESS ARRANGE-

MENT WOULD BE THE ABILITY OF COMSAT TO PLAY THE SAME
ROLE HEREAFTER WITH SUSPECT TO TAIWAN ACCESS AS IT
HAS HERETOFORE WITH RESPECT TO ACCESS BY THE MAINLAND.
FOR THE U.S. TO SEPARATE ITSELF PROMINENTLY
FROM THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY IN WELCOMING PROSPECTIVE
PRC MEMBERSHIP COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE QUIET PROCESS
WE WILL WISH TO SEE BROUGHT ABOUT SO THAT COMSAT WILL BE
ENABLED TO PLAY THIS ROLE.

7. A FURTHER HURDLE WE HAVE BEFORE US IS THAT OF ASSURING
THAT THE DECISION TO WELCOME THE PRC TO JOIN INTEL SAT
IS UNDERSTOOD TO MEAN THAT THIS IS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED
THROUGH THE INTEL SAT ACCESSION PROCEDURES. THERE
HAS BEEN SOME TALK THAT A PRC REPRESENTATIVE MIGHT BE
SEATED AT THIS ASSEMBLY FOLLOWING ADOPTION OF A "WELCOMING"
RESOLUTION, AND THE PAKISTANI DELEGATION ACKNOWLEDGED
TO US TODAY THAT THIS COULD BE "ONE OPTION". (THE
INADVERTANT FLYING OF THE PRC FLAT AT THE MEETING SITE
FOR TWO DAYS UNTIL DETECTED MAY BE INDICATIVE OF THE
CONFUSED MOOD WHICH EXISTS ABOUT THIS.) WE IMPRESSED
UPON THE PAKISTANI DELEGATION THE DIFFICULTIES THIS
WOULD PRESENT FOR US AND MANY OTHERS (THE VENEZUELAN
REPRESENTATIVE WAS PRESENT AND PRESSED THE ARGUMENT),
AS WELL AS THE SPECIAL DIFFICULTIES THIS WOULD PRESENT
TO US AS DEPOSITARY OF THE INTEL SAT CONVENTION. THE
PAKISTANI DELEGATION, WHICH NOW NO LONGER DISGUISES
ITS VERY CLOSE COORDINATION WITH PRC REPRESENTATIVES,
SAID THAT AS A RESULT OF THE CONVERSATION IT
INTENDED TO CONSULT WITH THE PRC ABOUT DROPPING THIS
"OPTION."

8. RECOMMENDATION. GIVEN THE PRESENT SITUATION AND
THE FOREGOING CONSIDERATIONS THE DELEGATION BELIEVES
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THAT OUR OVERALL INTERESTS WOULD BE BEST PROTECTED BY
QUIETLY WORKING TO ASSURE THAT THE CORRECT ACCESSION
PROCESS WOULD BE EXPECTED UNDER A "WELCOMING" RESO-
LUTION, AND THEN THE ADOPTION OF SUCH A RESOLUTION BY
CONSENSUS RATHER THAN VOTE.
MARSHALL

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